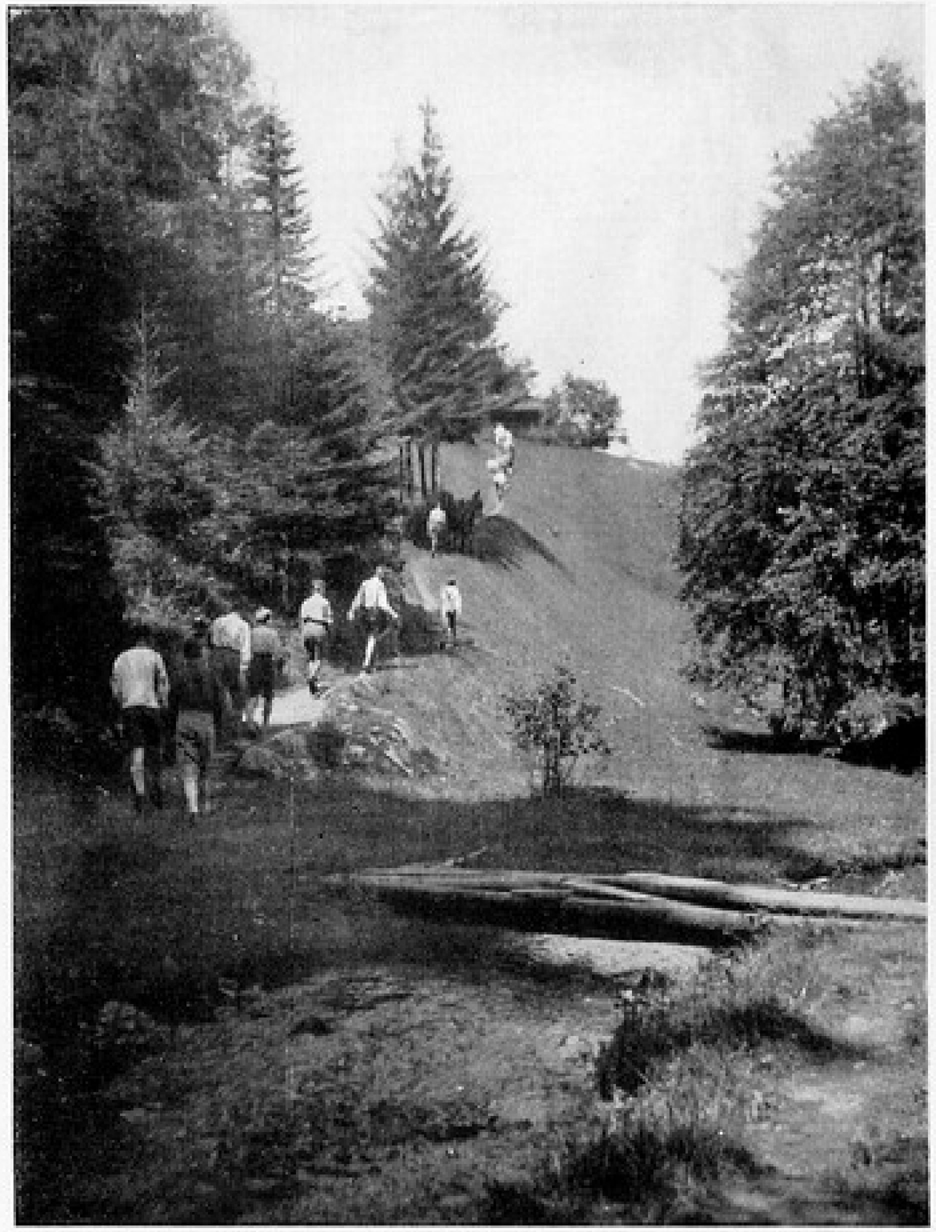
German youth in a changing world





YOUTH ON THE TRAMP

GERMAN YOUTH IN A CHANGING WORLD

BERLIN

TERRAMARE OFFICE

FOURTH EDITION
1936

Published by the Terramare Office, Kronenstrasse 1, Berlin W 8
Printed by the Terramare Press, Dresdener Strasse 43, Berlin SW 19

Printed in Germany

CONTENTS

GERMAN YOUTH IN A CHANGING WORLD

THE Youth Movement is so essentially German that it would be justifiable to typify the Germans as *the* people with a youth movement, or, to go still further, the people which has always had a youth movement and which will ever have one, so long as we mean thereby an active and independent spirit among the rising generation.



NOVALIS
Friedrich Leopold von Hardenberg

In the middle of the eighteenth century, Klopstock founded our hymnal poetry at the age of 24. In Herder's sick-room at Strassburg a youth of 26 kindled the spirit of another of 21 (Goethe) and the latter thereafter that of his comrades and contemporaries. Schiller was scarcely 20 when, under the double influence of his education and his time, he proclaimed rebellion sacred and read aloud his "Robbers" to his fellows. His example was followed by the three scholars, Hölderlin, Schelling and Hegel, who secretly acknowledged the ἐν χαι παν and danced about the Tree of Freedom. Moreover, that most effective spiritual movement which after the classic epoch consciously wore the colours of youth, was initiated by two youths—Friedrich Schlegel and Novalis.

Max Kommerell



JOSEPH VON EICHENDORFF

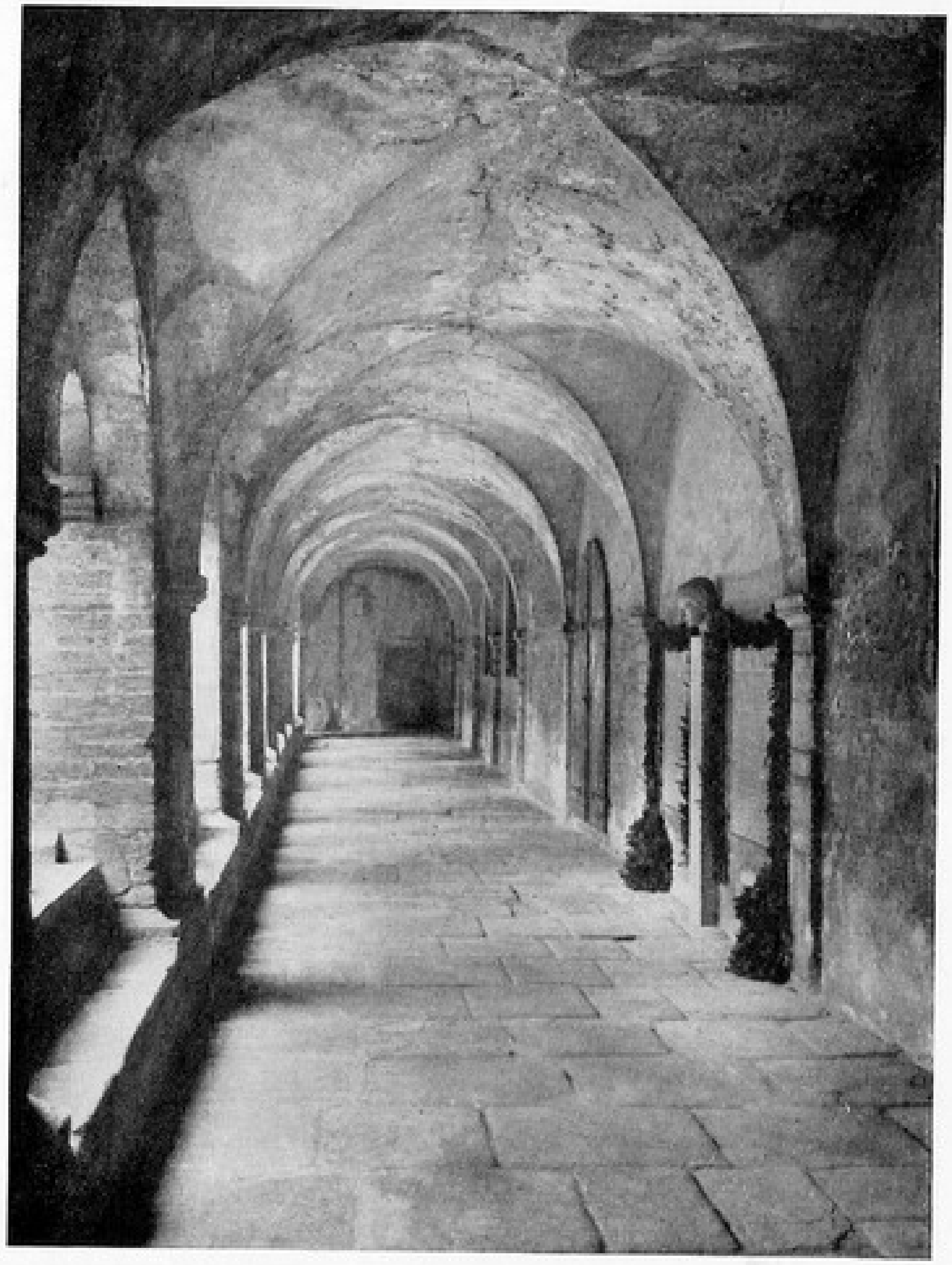
"For our youth there is no ease of carefree play, no blithe immunity; the quest of life engages it early. We come to birth in the midst of struggle and in the midst of struggle, vanquished or victorious, we decline."

From the novel „Ahnung und Gegenwart", 1812

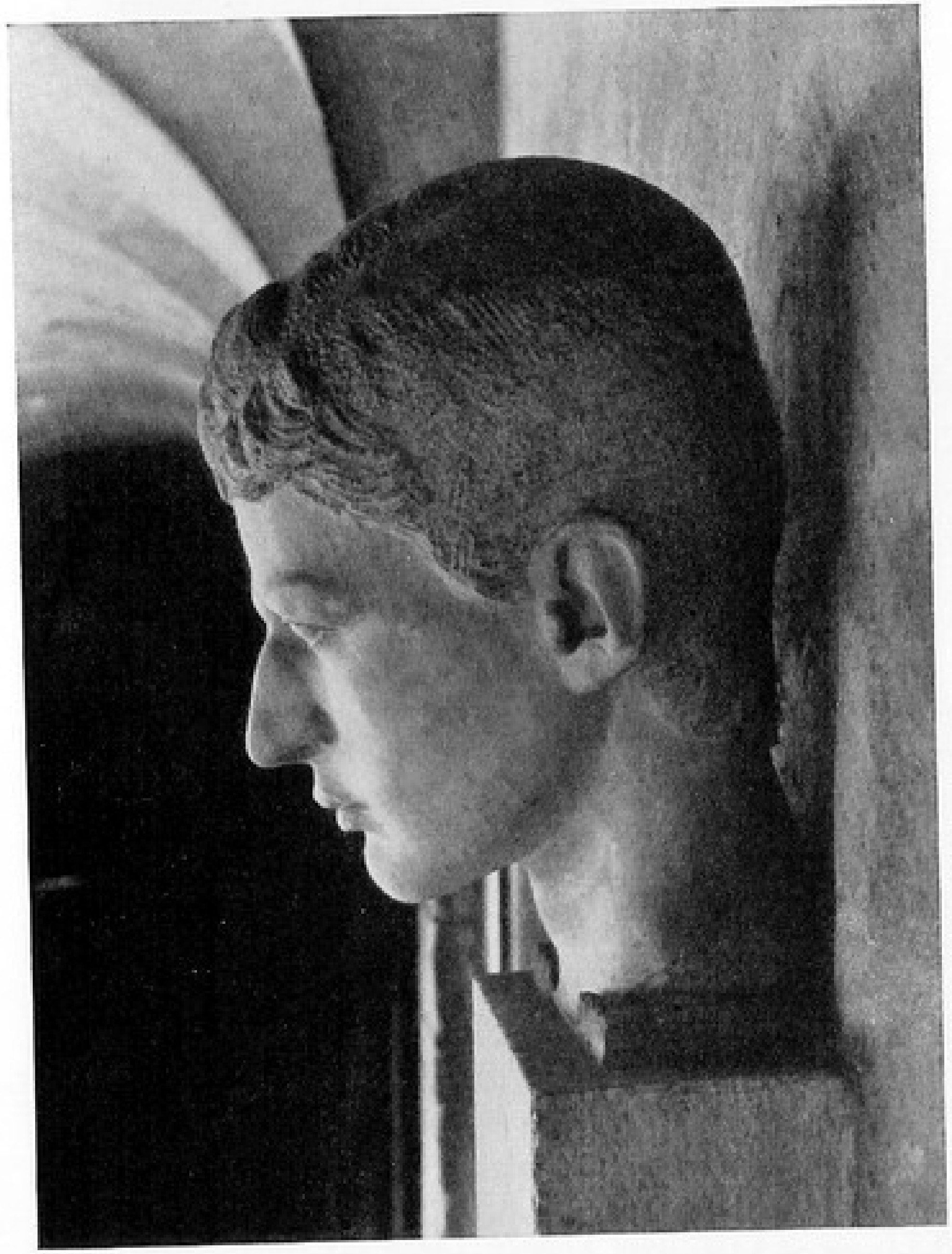
EVERYWHERE violent complaints can be heard and read against young people. It is said that they are sceptical, refractory and lacking in respect. It is true that they never showed less trusting confidence in their parents and teachers. But is this really, as is so often claimed, the children's fault? Instead, is it not the inevitable result of the prevailing insecurity, a lack of faith, which in this age of the League of Nations, the Peace Pact, Disarmament, and Diplomacy, seems to cling to all high-sounding promises and assurances? If, today, young people refuse to believe their elders so blindly, is this not because the innate truthfulness of these young people rebels against the abuse of sacred promises? Mistrust of any kind of authority may harbour the profound and true intuition that sacred responsibilities and high sounding promises demand actions as well. Do these young people perhaps feel that the extravagant use of long respected names at exhibitions, banquets, club meetings and professional congresses will be bitterly revenged on the speakers and their peoples? Is it not possible that youth's refractory spirit conceals a secret will to realise truth and to hold to it in the future?

Every young man or woman, who has a character that must develop in its own way, should be more valuable to us than coal or iron or any of our other raw materials in Germany. For these young people will, one day, be chiefly responsible for the decision as to how our natural products will be used. Talented youth is more precious and worthwhile cultivating than any of the few properties left us. These young people must and will one day mould Germany's history. And this youth should be sacred to us.

Eduard Wechssler



WAR MEMORIAL BY THORMAEHLEN
IN THE CONVENT CLOISTER AT MAGDEBURG



IN MEMORY OF GERMAN YOUTHS
KILLED IN ACTION 1914—1918

THE YOUNG GENERATION IN GERMANY
THE HITLER-JUGEND

The young generation in Germany today is so self-reliant, so willing and so trustful that it would be a crime on the part of the war generation not to hand over generously to the youth everything which the latter has the right to demand by reason of the struggle which it has waged for the establishment of a new attitude towards life.

Werner Beumelburg

TO understand the origin and rise of National Socialism we must always bear in mind the fact that its founders were soldiers who had fought in the world war. The life that they led in the trenches was the source from which the inspiration and driving force of the new movement came. The new outlook on life sprang from those war experiences, and also the new conception of the relations that should exist on the part of the people towards the nation and towards one another.

Jn the same way the German youth of today can be understood only through its relation to National Socialism. Even before the war there was a Youth Movement in Germany; but the movement of today is different, because it is an integral part of National Socialism. The young generation was an essential factor among the forces that brought National Socialism to power. In the fighting period of the movement 21 youngsters, between the ages of 15 and 18, lost their lives in the service of the cause. They were members of the organisation which is called the Hitler-Jugend.

The Hitler-Jugend is an organisation that arose spontaneously from the members of the young generation who wished to place themselves at the service of the National



Socialist Party. Thereupon it received its name as an individual National Socialist organisation. In Oktober, 1932 100,000 boys and girls assembled in Potsdam, on the occasion of the first German congress of the Hitler-Jugend, to parade before the Führer, Adolf Hitler. In that demonstration an example was given which had elo-



quent significance for anybody with eyes to see. This congress was the prologue to the events which began on January 30th, 1933. After the accession of the National Socialists to power, millions of German boys and girls flocked to the Hitler-Jugend which today has a membership of six millions — the largest youth organisation in the world. These came from the various youth groups of the old regime, which had been organised in different units according to different political affiliations, different classes and different religious denominations. The former youth organisations became extinct and the youth of the country joined in one national organisation in the Hitler-Jugend, which thus furnished a guarantee for the consolidation and continuance of the new State among the generations of the future. Baldur von Schirach, who had hitherto been the Reich leader of the Hitler-Jugend was now appointed by Adolf Hitler as supreme leader of all the German youth.

The Hitler-Jugend stands for a new type of German youth and therewith we have a new type of German manhood in process of formation. In contradistinction to the former leagues of youth, this Hitler-Jugend is not romantic and does not try to escape from the realities of life but prefers rather to face them openly and master them.

It is true that they love their country excursions, just as the others did. They are attracted to the tent and the campfire. They sing the old German folk songs and indeed have once again brought to public recognition a whole treasury of these songs which hitherto had lain neglected in the folk memory. But they do not remain entirely in the past. They also sing songs which they themselves have composed, the theme of which is part of their own experiences. These young people are creative in the highest degree. Within the past three years they



have produced a group of new songs which are of recognised artistic merit. And just as they are endeavouring to introduce a new style in the domain of art, so too they are endeavouring to develop a new style of life for the German people. They are well informed on the political situation in Germany and in the world around them. For the first time in Germany, after a long 2,000 years, there is at last a whole generation of politically minded people. They have achieved success in establishing friendly relations with the youth of other countries; because, just like the youth elsewhere, they are determined to maintain peace in Europe and throughout the world. Indeed, it may be said that their contribution to this noble purpose is a very valuable one. From all this it is clear that in all departments of life, in culture and in art, in the social order and in politics, they represent a definitely creative force. But they recognise very clearly that, in order to have their forces and their practical capabilities properly organised a strong leadership is necessary, so that their striving to work for this one ideal, which is Germany, will have its best effects. For that reason they formed themselves into a solid phalanx under the leadership of Adolf Hitler, and through their own leader they have declared that outside the Hitler-Jugend any other league of youth will be opposed by the spirit of the community, which is the spirit of the State.

The distinguishing feature of this youth organisation, which differentiates it from all other youth organisations in the world, lies in the fact that it is specifically an organisation in support of the State. Other youth organisations like the Italian Balilla were founded under the patronage of the State; but here we have a youth organi-



sation which was founded when the State did not exist, the purpose of which was to furnish a basis on which the State could be founded. The German youth of today has adopted a principle which is peculiar to itself and which Adolf Hitler has expressed in the phrase: "Youth



must be led by youth." Therefore their leaders are chosen by a system of promotion from the leadership of one group to another within the organisation. The first rung in the ladder is the leadership of the small Comrade Band (Kameradschaftsführer), which comprises only ten members. Next comes the troop leader (Scharführer); after that comes the leader of the Comitatus (Gefolgschaftsführer); following that we have promotion to the respective grades of Sub-district leader (Unterbannführer), District leader (Bannführer), Chief District leader (Oberbannführer) and Regional and Chief Regional leaders (Gebietsführer and Obergebietsführer). The girls organisation has its own special structure and its own special work; but it stands in close relations of comradeship with the Hitler-Jugend and is conducted along the same general lines. When the German boy reaches the age of 10 he joins what is called the *Jungvolk;* at the

age of 14 he passes over into the Hitler-Jugend. At the age of 10 the girl joins the *Jungmädels;* at the age of 14 she passes over to the League of German Girls (The B. D. M. - Bund deutscher Mädel).

When the leaders are being chosen to fill the various positions, only one qualification is taken into account — and this is decisive in each case. It is the qualification that arises from practical achievement. In other words, when it becomes a question of choosing a leader for any of the various grades in its organisation, the young generation in Germany asks first of all: what has he done? The principle of Service is the main consideration in the Hitler-Jugend, and through it are eliminated the old time distinctions of class and position, profession and education, birth and money. It is thus that the unified National Socialist nation is being constructed. Therefore in this work of nation building the Hitler-Jugend discharges a high edu-





cational function and is legally acknowledged by the State as a coordinating factor with school and family training. Naturally it works in close collaboration with those two.

In excursions and camps, in home parties and school lectures, in schools which have been established for the specific purpose of teaching the art of leadership, in athletic meetings and in festive celebrations — it is here that the new Germany is being constructed as a free community on the basis of thorough-going equality in social comradeship. It is a Germany that is inspired with the spirit of creative youthfulness and is at the same time conscious of its mighty cultural and historical inheritance. It is a Germany that is determined to preserve and advance everything that is essentially German and in accord with the German spirit. And we at least believe that this is the best service which a nation can render to the common interests of mankind.

Franz Otto Wrede

YOUTH HOSTELS IN GERMANY

YOUNG Englishmen who have had the opportunity of travelling in Germany and have made use of the Youth Hostels or "Jugend Herbergen" are always loud in praise of this institution, the only thing of its kind in the world. Various countries are now beginning to imitate it.

The visitors to these hostels found happy young people bent on wandering all over their native country and they were by no means only the young people belonging to the so-called Youth Movement, but came from all ranks of the German people. The young workman sat next to the young student, college boy next to board-school boy, youths and girls together. The "Herbergsvater", the Father of the home, keeps an eye on everything and provides food for his young guests unless they prefer, as they usually do, to prepare their simple meal for themselves. In the evening they are shown their bunks, usually built in pairs, one



above another in shipboard style. Their blankets, sheets or a sleeping sack, unless they have brought their own, are served out and they sleep the sound sleep of the wanderer till the sun wakes them to another happy holiday morning. Thus great masses of German youth learn to know their own country and its people, refresh themselves for their daily toil by a couple of weeks of fresh air and country scenes and begin to understand that simplicity and naturalness are the fountains of national health.

It is impossible to calculate the value of the Jugendherberge as a national educative factor. They also have had the tremendous task of welding together once more into a concrete whole the youth of Germany who, up to the year 1933, have been split up by political machinations into rival factions.

Yet the work of the Youth Shelters has not been in existence for so very long. The founder was a Council school teacher named Richard Schirrmann in Westphalia. He saw the need of fresh air and country life for the people of the industrial districts of the Ruhr and so he started his pupils hiking. He got his friends among fellow-teachers to put him and his boys up on beds of straw laid down in schoolrooms which were empty on account of the summer holidays. That was the root idea of the Jugendherberge. In 1910 he sent out his first public appeal—by 1914 a number of Youth Hostels were in existence. Naturally the movement had to start all over again after the war. Now the Youth Hostels have been embodied in the model organization of the Hitler Youth. This has given a fresh impetus and new life to the movement. A network of nearly 2,100 Jugendherbergen is spread over the whole country. In 1934 about seven million young people spent a night in these shelters!

The Jugendherbergen are not a commercial institution. Their object is to offer sleeping accommodation to young



Youth Hostel Castle Stahleck near Bacharach in the Rhineland

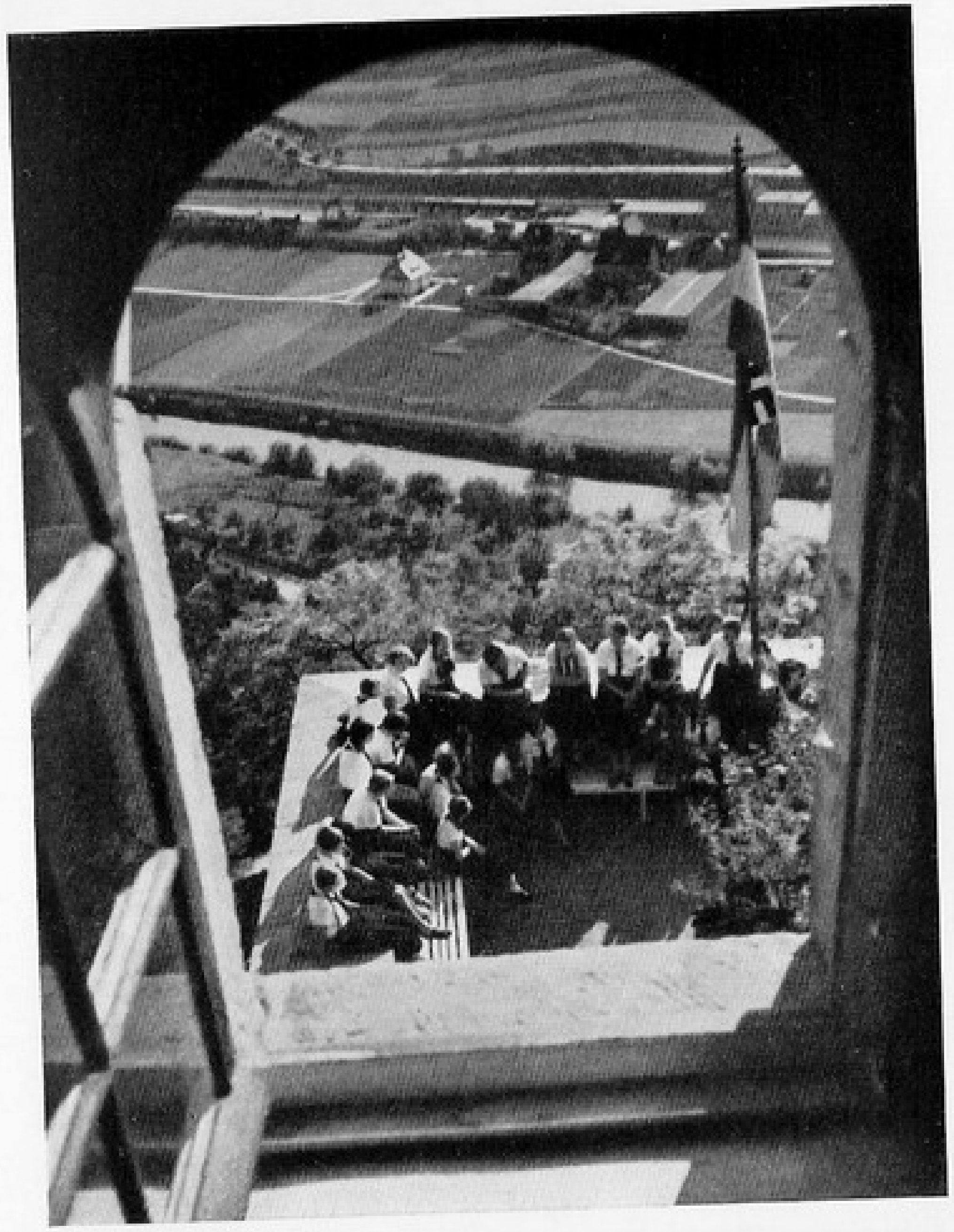
people as cheaply as it can be done. They reckon on self-help. There are no porters, chambermaids or waiters. Everyone must look after his own wants and see that the shelter is left in good order for the next comers. The Jugendherbergen are simple, but the hygienic arrangements are modern and meet all requirements. This is especially true of those built within the last years by the various sections of the National League, by great societies or municipalities. There are also Youth Hostels in old castles, city bastions, cloisters and farmhouses; schoolrooms are still used at times; but we are glad to say that such makeshift shelters are gradually being done away with. To-day 700 Youth Hostels have

bath and shower bath laid on over 12000 provide full board and lodging and most of them have cooking facilities with which the hikers can prepare their own food.

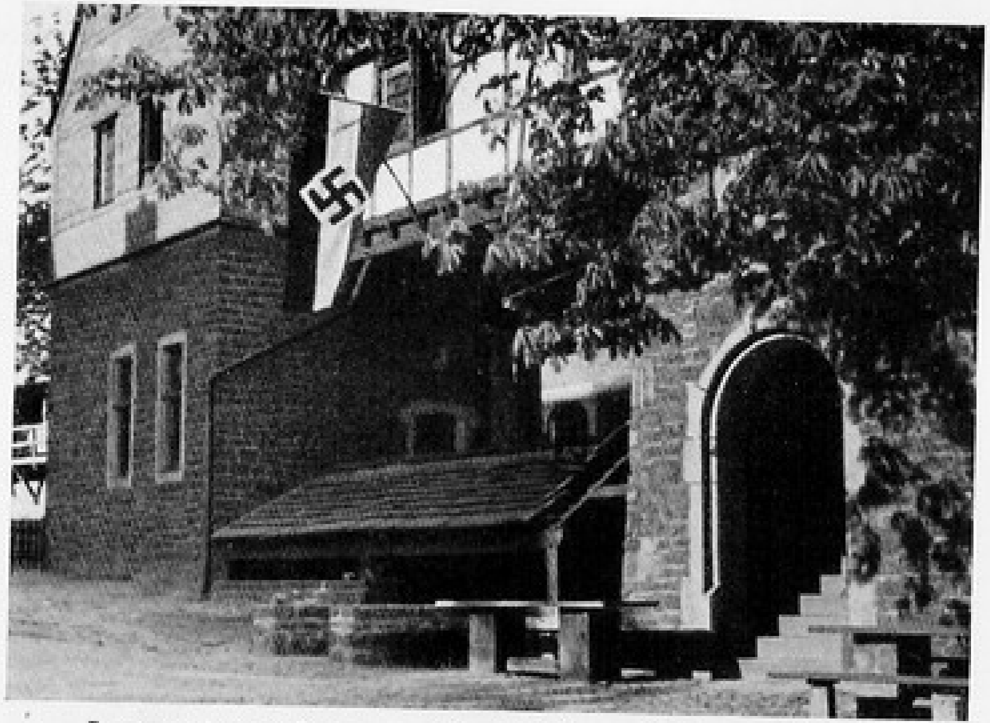
Needless to say there is no part of Germany without its Jugendherbergen. Not only are they to be found all along the Rhine and in the Black Forest—the districts most favoured by English touring groups. The so-called secondary mountain chains of Germany—the Harz Mountains, the Thuringian Forest, the Odenwald and the Spessart—have for the most part become known to youthful hikers only since the opening of the young people's shelters. Many an old castle has become a centre of youthful activities since it has been converted into a Jugendherberge. Such are the castle of Altena, where the whole movement took its rise, Freusburg on the Sieg, Rothenfels, the old castle of the Quickborns, the Ludwigstein, dedicated to the memory of Wandervögel fallen in the war, and many others. Finally various great cities—Munich, Cologne, Cassel, and recently Frankfort on-the-Main—have erected Jugendherbergen.

As a result of the world crisis and also of a mistaken financial policy in recent years the extension of the hostel system has temporarily had to slow down. But the crisis in Germany could not stop young Germans from wandering on their weekends and their holidays, and since the taking over of the youth hostels by the Hitlerjugend the financial situation has been improved and the work is being enthusiastically carried on: "We intend Germany to have so many youth hostels that there will not be more than a day's walk from one to the next."

In the meantime youth hostels have also been erected abroad. There are Youth Hostel leagues in Switzerland, in Holland and in Scandinavian countries. In Great Britain too a similar movement has arisen in the last few



IN THE GIRL'S LEADER SCHOOL CASTLE NEUENBURG



In the first German Youth Hostel, Burg Altena

years and a lot of shelters have been founded in England and Scotland. The various leagues are in close contact. Last year the second international assembly of Youth Hostel Leagues took place at Bad Godesberg, on the Rhine.

It is to be hoped that the cooperation among the various leagues will become closer and closer. Since German Youth Hostels have existed young people from other countries have ever been sure of a welcome in the shelters. The number of young guests from foreign countries has during the last years rapidly increased up to over 100,000 in 1935. With good reason an Englishman once wrote to the German league of Youth Hostels: "You are doing more for the peace of the world than the League of Nations". Truly, the German Youth Hostels are another step on the long path towards a world at peace: Youth to Youth!

Further information will be gladly given by: Reichsverband für Deutsche Jugendherbergen, Berlin NW40, Roonstrasse 5.

THE education of the youth is one of those problems which must persistently occupy the attention of every civilized nation. And for each nation the solution of the problem is different, because it is conditioned by the national character. Yet I hold that there is no other branch of public effort so well suited for an international exchange of ideas as that branch which is represented by the educators of youth. The more the educators of youth in the various civilized nations succeed in coming to a mutual understanding on certain fundamental principles of education, so much greater is the probability that the youth of one nation will not develop a spirit of rivalry towards that of another nation, but will rather grow up in friendly relations with the others, and thus prepare the ground for subsequent international co-operation; for the youth of today will be the political leaders tomorrow.

If collaboration between the youth leaders of the various nations is to be productive of the desired results—such a collaboration as I have striven for and in which have attained at least some modest success for my pains—then the first condition to be fulfilled is that all those who are engaged in this work must be determined that when the youth of foreign nations are entrusted to them they will absolutely renounce the thought of infecting the minds of this youth with political ideas. When the task in hand is to bring about an understanding between the young people of the various nations, youth leaders who are conscious of their responsibilities will not seek to gain a political success for certain ideas and maxims, but will strive solely to bring about mutual appreciation on a purely human basis, in a spirit of companionship and absolute uprightness. This was the line followed in former interchanges between the German youth and the youth of other nations. And for the future it will con-



Foreign and German Students in a Summer Camp on the Baltic shore

tinue to be the goal which the youth leaders must persistently keep in view throughout all their international collaboration. This, for instance, was the spirit in which a camp for German youth was organized in England in the summer of 1935, as the counterpart of the English camps which were arranged in Germany the previous year.

The primary value of these latter institutions is to extend the mental horizon of the individual. The more the youth of the various nations associate with their contemporaries in foreign lands, the more they will understand and appreciate the character and ways of foreign nations, and perhaps they may thus get a general insight into those inner trends which direct the course of political events in each nation. Treated in this way, interchanges between the youth of the various nations will not and cannot be used as a political instrument, but will be a means of mutual education.

Baldur von Schirach

THE WANDERING SCHOLARS

WHEN the youth movement first started in Germany the wandering scholar, with staff and rucksack, was its principal exponent. And he was a good exponent, because he was perfectly right in believing that Shank's pony is the best method of transportation if one sets out on a journey for the purpose of gaining a knowledge of one's own country. This spirit logically gave rise to a desire to know the neighbouring countries, and is of special importance in the case of Germany; for Germany is surrounded by a ring of powerful nations whose political significance is of the highest importance, and whose histories are part of the cultural development of Europe. The result of this situation was that the German youth movement soon began to cross the national frontiers and explore other countries. The wish to understand one's neighbours became a ruling factor.

A branch of the youth movement which has lately come into prominence is the international system whereby the youth of various nations exchange visits in organized parties. In the summer of 1935 more than 100 groups of the Hitler Youth, each group consisting of from 10 to 20 members, crossed the German frontiers on exploration tours abroad. With tent and knapsack, they toured France and England, the Balkan States and Poland; into the Baltic countries, northwards as far as Iceland and northwestwards as far as the United States of America. As there were some students who could not meet the costs of such journeys, an arrangement was made to have an exchange of students between the various colleges in different countries. For instance, a German school would invite a number of students from an English school to come and stay as its guests for four or five weeks, and the English school would then in its turn invite the German students to do likewise. Thus it has been made possible to carry out a system of international excursions where the individual student only has to pay his bare travelling expenses.



German and American High-school students in North Carlonia, in the camp of New College, Columbia University

In 1935, 2,500 German boys and girls left Germany as the invited guests of foreign countries. Of these, speaking in round numbers, 600 went to England, 500 to Sweden, 200 to France, 200 to Finnland, 100 to Norway; and the rest, divided into smaller groups, to other parts of Europe, principally into the countries lying South-East of Germany. For the first time 3 groups, travelled to the United States of America.

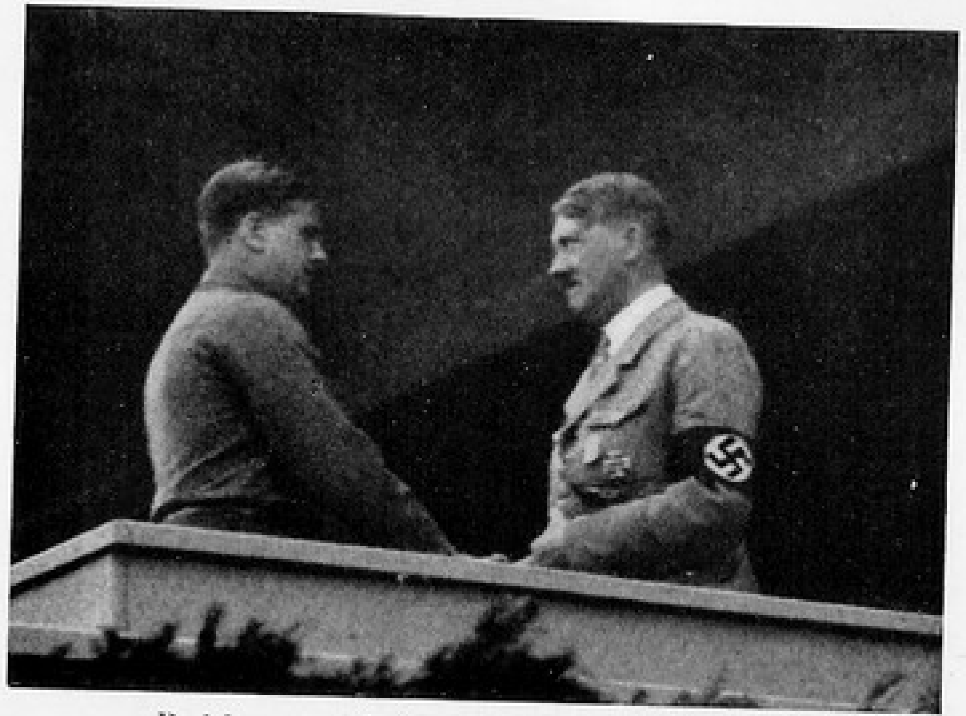
These holiday camps have a special significance, because camp life, with its close companionship, enables the youth of both nations to get to know and understand one another. The Reich leader of the Hitler-Jugend was the first to start these international holiday camps. It was something entirely new in international relations when, in the summer of 1934, a group of English students disembarked at Hamburg and were received by a group of the Hitler-Jugend who conducted them to their hostel as guests.

The site of the first camp was a Saxon house in the Lüneburger Heide, the second was established in the mountains in the centre of Germany, and the third at the foot of the Alps. The students in these camps did not come there to discuss questions together but rather to take the spade in the hand and work together. The fourth camp of this kind was established in England in April, 1935, and is probably only the beginning of many more in the future.

The first step in establishing an interchange of students is not always easy. In most cases it is simplified through a mutual understanding brought about by exchanging correspondence. The ambition of almost every German school is to develop an exchange of letters between its students and those of some other school in the neighbouring countries. In the year 1935 about 2,000 letters have been written by German students to Swedish students, about 1,000 to English students, about 1,500 to French students, 1,000 to Norwegian students, 1,200 to Finnish students and an innumerable quantity to the United States of America. German schools are also in correspondence with Polish, Hungarian, Yugo-Slavian, Italian, Spanish, Dutch and Danish schools, and in the Far East with China and Japan. Exchange of letters with Australia is also prolific. Here there is no question of stilted, formal correspondence, but personal matters are entered into, photographs and snapshots are exchanged. Some times when the other party does not respond with the same enthusiasm, one should not be discouraged, for it generally happens in such cases that a friendly answer comes from some other quarter of the globe.



Anyone wishing to enter into such correspondence with German boys and girls would do well to write first to: Deutsche Pädagogische Auslandstelle, Berlin NW 40, Kronprinzenufer 13.



Baldur von Schirach and Adolf Hitler

THE LEADERSHIP OF THE GERMAN YOUTH MOVEMENT

ADOLF HITLER once said to the youth of Germany: "Youth must be led by youth". So he appointed a joung leader for the Hitler-Jugend. This was Baldur von Schirach, who has proved that he is fully conscious of his responsibility as leader and that he is capable of forming the Hitler-Jugend. Baldur von Schirach has increased the membership of this organisation from 30,000 to over six millions. Convinced of Baldur von Schirachs ability, Adolf Hitler issued the following order, on the 17th of June 1933:—

> An office for the whole of the German Reich is hereby created with the official title "Youth Leader of the German Reich". The Reich Youth Leader of the National Socialist Party, Baldur von Schirach, is appointed Youth Leader of the German Reich. The Youth Leader of the German Reich is at the head of all associations of young people of both sexes and also of the youth organizations of adult associations. The foundation of youth organizations requires his sanction.

> The officials appointed by him will take over the duties of the state and communal committees whose tasks are carried out in direct cooperation with the youth organizations.

By this order the Hitler-Jugend was assigned the task in the German State that is fitting for it. The Reich Youth Leadership transferred its offices from Munich to Kronprinzen-Ufer 10, Berlin NW 40.

The first new Youth Leader of the German Reich at once proceeded to complete the extension of his organization. As leader of the entire youth of Germany, he had to create an organization that was capable of including all the various domains concerned with youth.

One of the most responsible tasks is assigned to the staff office which has to select and appoint all the leaders whose names are proposed to it. Welfare, juvenile law and hygiene are dealt with by another department which also deals with all social questions. The entire business side is managed by the administrative department which includes a vast card index register of the members in which the name of each member is recorded with the most exact details. A special sanitary department is charged with seeing that the young people can obtain every kind of sanitary and medical assistance.

The most important and extensive functions are exercised by the section "education and physical fitness". This section has to provide the young with that spiritual grounding that is absolutely essential for the existence and future of our nation, for the spirit is the determining factor of the body. To school the young and bring them up as men who will be capable one day of taking over the leadership of the state. To see to the physical fitness of the Hitler-Jugend is also one of its tasks. Here sport naturally plays a large part. Not sport for its own sake or for the sake of breaking records but as a means to an end. Schools for leaders train for this task boys who have proved themselves capable of leading others. A Reich Youth Leader School and Reich Girl Leader School complete the work of the District Leader Schools. The Reich Youth Leadership has established connection with the whole of public opinion by extensive press work. The entire German press now

publishes Hitler-Jugend supplements. Besides this, the Hitler-Jugend itself owns some all-German and over twenty district newspapers. The all-German newspapers and periodicals issued by the Reich Youth Leadership are published by the Deutscher Jugendverlag, Schiffbauerdamm 19, Berlin NW 7. These include "Das junge Deutschland", the official organ of the Youth Leader of the German Reich, "Wille und Macht", a fortnightly publication, "Die Fanfare", an illustrated paper of the Hitler Youth, "Der deutsche Sturmtrupp", the newspaper of the German Youth, and "Jungvolk", the organ of the German children in the Hitler Youth. The press section also cooperates in the publication of the Youth Hostel periodical "Jugend und Heimat" and some others.

In connection with the library of the Reich Youth Leadership is a collection of over 20,000 German and foreign fairy tales and books for children from all over the world and which has been placed at the disposal of the Reich Youth Leadership by Dr. Hobrecker.

Foreign youth work is dealt with by a special department which includes the central office for German youth in Europe.

A Commissioner for Youth Associations is in charge of all German youth associations, also those who have not joined the Hitler-Jugend.

Finally, youth hostels are managed by a separate section controlled by the German Youth Hostel Association.

In addition to a Leaders' Circle, composed of representatives of the various groups of organized youth, the Youth Leader for the German Reich has nominated district and local commissioners for his work in the provinces.

With this great organization, which has not been created for the moment but for the future, Baldur von Schirach, the Youth Leader of the German Reich, will be able to provide those now creating a new Germany with a guarantee for the continuation of the great work that has been begun in our nation. The youth of Germany will follow the path taken by the German nation towards a better future.

Rudolf Apel

THE REICH APPRENTICES' COMPETITION

Reichs-Berufswettkampf

BEFORE 1933, when the political struggle was at its height and there were over six million unemployed in Germany, the young people were especially badly affected since it was impossible for them to receive any training in a profession or trade. Hunger and need compelled thousands of young men to earn a few pence somehow or other as unskilled labourers as soon as they had left school, and even these slender earnings had to be given up to the parents to help them to feed the family.

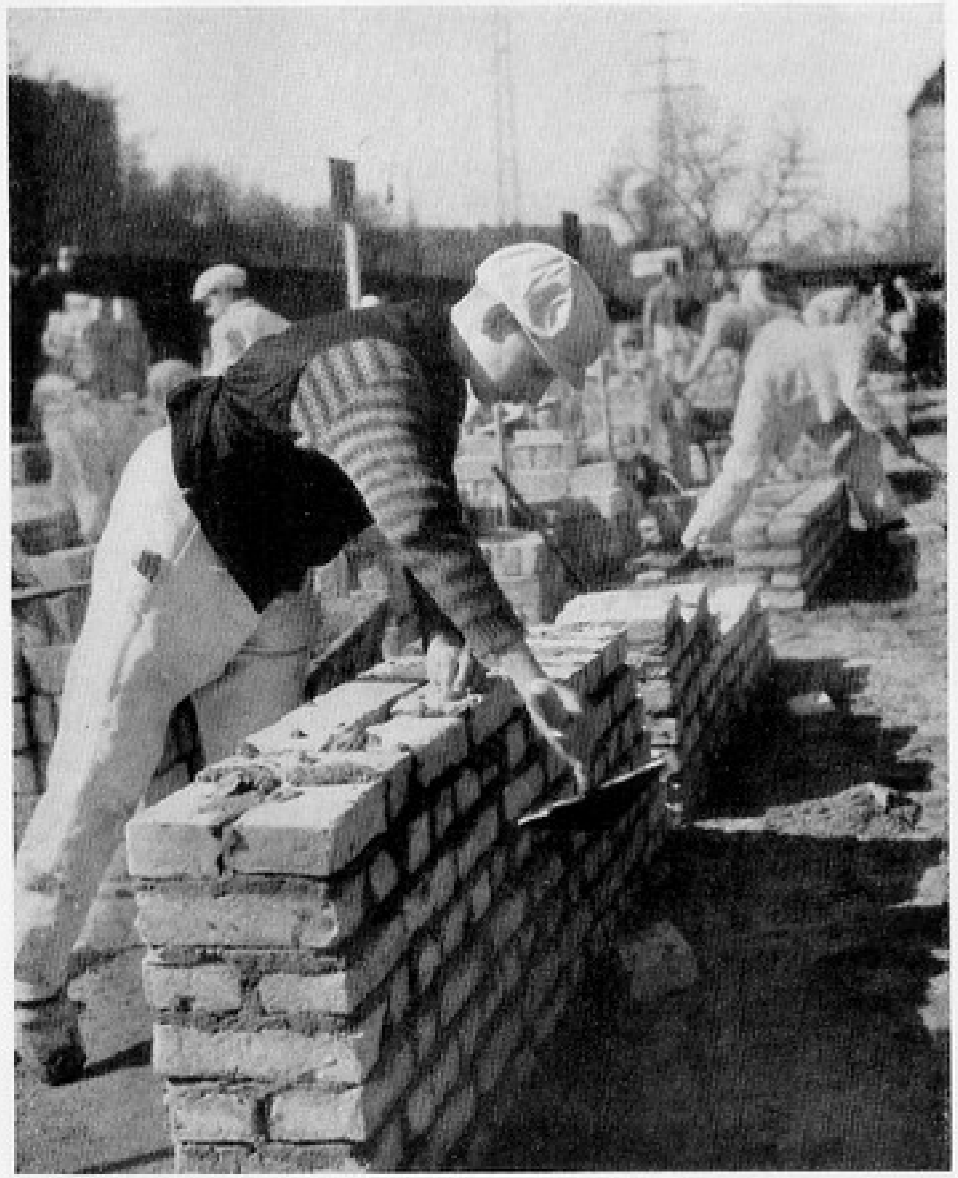
After the National Socialists had taken over the government and had succeeded in reducing unemployment by over four million it became evident that there was a very decided shortage of skilled workers. It was then that the Hitler Jugend and the German Workers' Front took the matter in hand. They started a system of professional training for the youth of Germany, culminating in the annual Reich Apprentices' Competition. The very first of these made it abundantly clear that there was much to be done in this sphere. Young men and women had to be provided with courses of professional training not only to make them fit to compete in the struggle for a living but also to supply the country with people who had received a thorough, all-round training in the trades and professions. It was above all necessary to educate these young people to take a pleasure in their work and their training and to make good and useful citizens of

them. At the same time they were to be inculcated with the National-Socialist principle that the working community should also be a community of comrades and that the leaders of this community must not only be experts in their own branch but also real leaders of men.

How eagerly the young people welcomed this new principle can be seen from the fact that in 1934 in a single month 282,500 young men and women taking part in 14,350 training courses volunteered to take part in additional courses.

The Reich Apprentices' Competition for the youth of Germany, this new idea of the Hitler Jugend, seemed to be an especially suitable method of bringing to the attention of the German youth the importance of a thorough professional training. In 1934 the first of these competitions was prepared and carried out. One million young men and women took part in it completely voluntarily. The second competition, in 1935, already showed a decided improvement in the work done by the young apprentices.

The Reich Apprentices' Competition and the social work of the Hitler Jugend are of service to the entire German youth and thus to the nation and its future. The conscientious professional training and the all-embracing health service are designed to produce a generation of healthy and expert workers. The Hitler Jugend hope that later on the competition will become an Olympiad for all the workers of Germany.



ONE OF A MILLION IN THE COMPETITION 1935

THE LABOUR SERVICE IN GERMANY

IN order to gain a clear understanding of the Labour Service in Germany it is necessary to keep in mind certain facts which have been of the utmost importance in its growth and development.

It is not easy for the outsider to appreciate the conditions which led to the introduction of Labour Service in Germany unless he is able at the same time to appreciate the disastrous effects for Germany of the Treaty of Versailles.

As a result of the Treaty Germany lost 9.5% of her population and over 13% of her area. Thus Germany, already over-populated, lost more land than population, which only made the problem of over-population more acute. Nor was the situation made any easier by the fact that about a million people returned to the Reich from the ceded territories. At the same time Germany was deprived of all her colonial possessions. One other fact must also be taken into consideration, namely that the land which Germany lost on her eastern and western frontiers, and especially that in the east, was agricultural land of a very high grade so that its loss meant a decrease of almost 30% of the German harvests. In all, Germany was deprived of 27% of her agricultural area.

At the end of the World War Germany was faced with the fact that her food supply situation which had been difficult enough before the War, had reached a state which gave rise to serious anxiety. The German people were very well aware of this as a result of their experiences during the War, the loss of which must largely be ascribed to the fact that Germany was being slowly starved out. Everyone who knows the history of the War and is able to realize the terrible effects of the hunger blockade, knows that Germany collapsed as the result of starvation.

It is only natural that when the War ended the German people were not able to forget their sufferings in a moment, and it was especially the youth of the country, who had gone through the hungry years 1916—1920, in whose memory the horror of these years had been stamped indelibly. The same



Student or worker—in the Labour Service everyone does his bit

may be said of the soldiers who had fought at the front and had experienced the horrors of the trenches, to which had been added the serious shortage of foodstuffs for the army in the years 1917 and 1918.

And still one more factor must be taken into consideration, namely the ousting of man by the machine, a process which advanced with tremendous strides during the years 1922—1930 and which resulted in making millions of workers superfluous. On top of all this came at last the collapse of the "world economy".

We in Germany observed all this with eyes which need had made all the sharper. We racked our brains for a solution, and it became abundantly evident to us that only decisive measures on a large scale could help us to overcome the crisis. It gradually became clear that many thousands of workers must be withdrawn from industry and trade and put to work in other fields, a process that meant nothing more nor less than an industrial revolution. There were too many hands in industry and too few on the land, and thus arose the "back to the land" movement.



Drainage work in a flooded district

And finally there was one consideration which may perhaps be regarded as decisive for the foundation of the Labour Service. During the years 1930–1933 there were many young men of from 18 to 23 years of age who had never done a day's work in their life and who had no prospects of ever finding work. They seemed to be condemned to lounge on street corners for the rest of their lives. This was the soil from which Bolshevism hoped to reap a rich harvest.

But—these young men were determined that they should not be doomed to misery and idleness. A mighty reaction began and the best of them rebelled against their lot. For them Adolf Hitler was their one hope, their one hold on life. They took their destiny in their own hands and made work for themselves, and in this they were assisted by the veterans of the War. Thus arose the first Labour Camps.

And then the National-Socialist revolution burst forth.

Already in 1928 the National-Socialist Party had made the introduction of general labour service one of the points of their



Road-building in the mountains

programme. The Fuehrer, Adolf Hitler, had summoned Colonel Hierl to be one of the leaders of the organization in the Brown House in Munich and had entrusted him with the task of promoting the Labour Service. Two years later, in 1930, Hitler gave his approval to the following principles, which had been worked out by Hierl and were to form the basis of the new plan:

1. The introduction of compulsory Labour Service for all young Germans who are capable of work and in possession of their civil rights, regardless of class differences.
2. Labour Service, which is a service of honour to nation and homeland, to be considered on the same level as service with the colours.
3. Labour Service to be the great training-school of National Socialism.
4. Labour Service to be devoted solely to work which is of benefit to the whole community, economically valuable, and productive, with a view to achieving a sound state of affairs in the foodstuff situation.

As soon as the Fuehrer had given his approval to these principles Hierl started on the preparatory work for the construction of the Labour Service and made such rapid progress that, immediately after the Fuehrer had taken over the government in January 1933, it was possible to start on the building up of the National-Socialist Labour Service. In this process the already existing National-Socialist training association formed the basis. The Stahlhelm Labour Service was amalgamated and the other organizations of a similar nature gradually dissolved.

At that time, in the spring of 1933, there were many people in Germany who did not understand Hierl's action and regarded it as dangerous. They were of the opinion that the whole system was designed as an instrument of power in the hands of the National Socialists. All these doubters and critics will have to admit today that they were mistaken. Hierl acted in the right way if he wanted to be able to carry out unhindered his programme of construction, which was complete, well thought out, and above all, clear and simple. We do not say this solely because it has already been justified by the results but because we who had the honour to work hand in hand with him were convinced from the moment when the Fuehrer appointed him as Secretary of State for the Labour Service and Reich Labour Leader (May 1933) that his was the only possible way to achieve the object which we had set ourselves. Filled with this conviction Hierl overcame all of his many opponents, some of whom were very powerful.

Today the Reich Labour Service exists as a State and National-Socialist organization with a strength of some 200,000; today general compulsory Labour Service has been introduced in Germany as a result of Hierl's calm and determined fight in the service of Fuehrer, nation, and country.

In the Labour Service Law, which came into force on 1st July 1935, the objects of the Labour Service are described as follows:

"(1) The Reich Labour Service is a service of honour for the German people.



Foreign Students of Munich University visiting a labour service camp nearby

(2) All young Germans of both sexes are obIgeid to serve the nation in the Reich Labour Service.

(3) The Reich Labour Service is designed to educate the German youth in the spirit of National Socialism and of the national community, that they may have a true conception of work, and above all, a true respect for manual labour.

(4) The Reich Labour Service is designed to carry on work of benefit to the whole community."

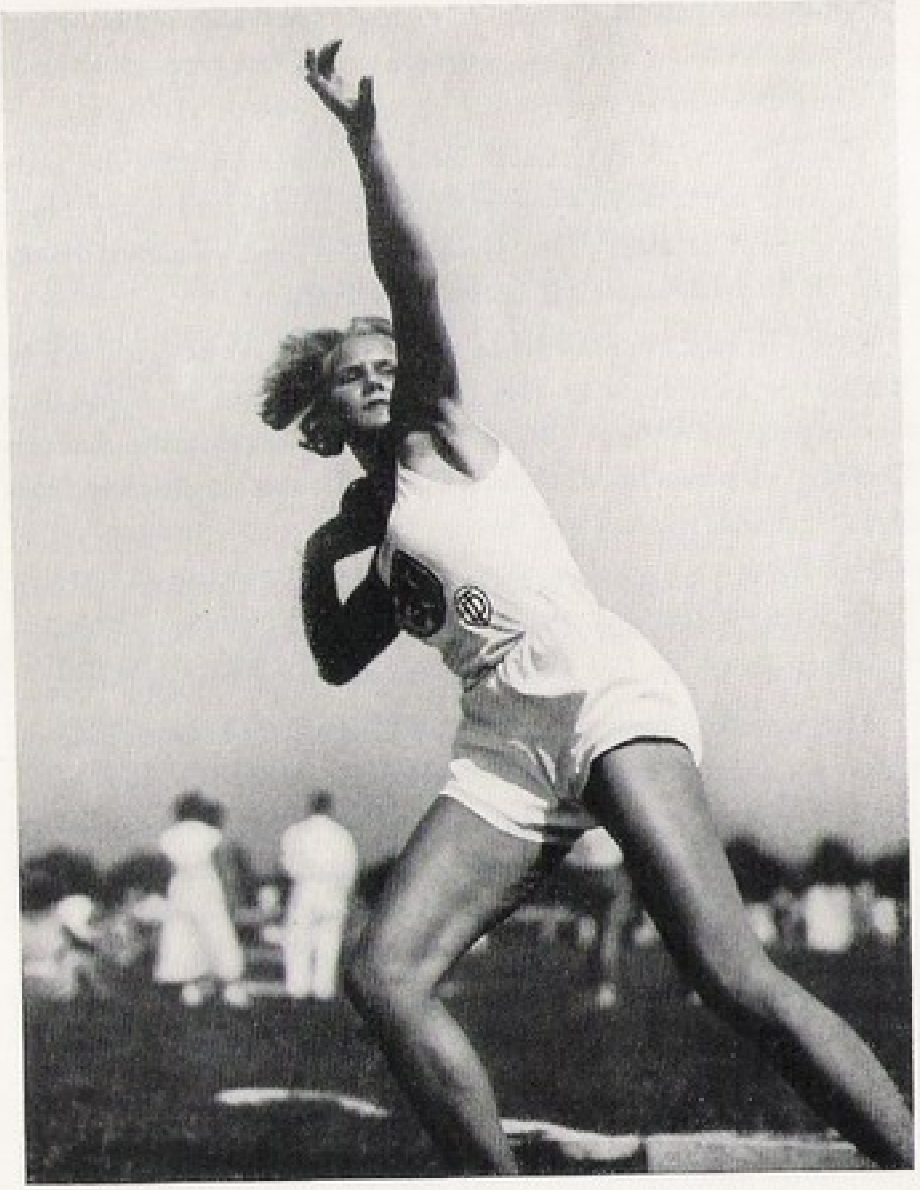
And so 200,000 young men are working day in and day out, each six months in turn and for no financial reward. They are proud and pleased to work, for it is for Germany that they are working and they are filled with the truth of the National-Socialist maxim "Work ennobles". The sons of professional men, of peasants, and of labourers, they stand shoulder to shoulder, live together in comradeship in the same camps, and work together for Germany.

Müller-Brandenburg

THE OLYMPIC GAMES, BERLIN 1936

THE eleventh Olympic Games of modern times will be held from August 1st—11th, 1936, in Berlin. They will be preceded by the Olympic winter sports which will be held at Garmisch-Partenkirchen from February 6th—16th.

The Games in Berlin will be the fulfilment of an old dream of the German Sporting Associations, which have always wished to pay their tribute to the Olympic idea. The Olympic Games were to have been held in Berlin in 1916 but this was prevented by the War. Today sport has made so much progress in every country that the stadium which was built for 1916 is no longer adequate. By a decision of Chancellor Hitler it has been made possible to enlarge it to a mighty arena capable of holding 100,000 spectators and to convert the surrounding area, which used to be a race-course, into a gigantic sports park comprising a swimming stadium for 10,000 spectators, an assembly ground accommodating nearly half a million people (at the same time a polo field), and smaller stadia for tennis, basket ball, hockey and equestrian sports. There will also be an open-air theatre, a bathing lake, and about a dozen playing fields. In addition, the new sports park will incorporate the "Sport Forum". i. e. the grounds and buildings of the German College of Physical Education, with its large gymnasiums, boxing rings, etc., its own practice grounds and tracks, and its dormitories and club rooms. The facilities of the College will be increased by the erection of an indoor swimming pool, of laboratories and class rooms, and of a dormitory, ("Kameradschaftshaus") which will be the home of the women athletes during the time of the Games.



This imposing sports park, with its manifold equipment for all the events of the Olympic Games—with the exception of rowing, sailing and cycling – to be held on the Stadium grounds, will create an ideal centre such as has never previously existed for any contests. It will also be the Administrative Headquarters of the Reich Sports

Leader, and all the main German sporting associations will assemble in the German Sports Club, which stands in the "Sport Forum".

The cycling stadium will be at a few minutes' distance from this area, while the rowing regatta will take place in the east of Berlin on the historic course at Grünau; the sailing regatta will be held at Kiel.

The Olympic teams have their choice of putting up in hotels or pensions in the city, or they can be lodged in the "Olympic Village" provided for that purpose, on the Los Angeles model, amidst beautiful scenery not far from the Stadium.

For the art competitions (architecture, literature, music, sculpture, painting) there will be a large Olympic Art Exhibition in one of the halls on the city fair ground.

The opening ceremony of the Games will take place on the afternoon of Saturday, 1st August. It will be followed, on the evening of the same day, by a festival play the scene of which will also be the Stadium. The Games will begin on the following Sunday and will last for two weeks. On Sunday August 16, the last competitions and the official closing ceremony will be held. The first week will be devoted to track and field athletics, wrestling, weight-lifting, shooting, cycling and modern Pentathlon. Swimming, rowing, canoeing, basketball, boxing, gymnastic and riding contests will be held during the second week. The fencing, field baseball, football and hockey matches will cover both weeks.

An international motor-car rally and a world meeting of sport-pilots with their 'planes will be organised on the occasion of the Games. To ignite the Olympic torch, which will burn during the period of the Games on the Marathon Tower above the Stadium, a relay will bear lighted

torches from Olympia in Greece to Berlin. The seven nations concerned have agreed to cooperate in arranging this relay, which is to establish a symbolic link between the ancient home of the Games and the city of the XIth Olympiad. Various international meetings and congresses, such as the International Recreation Congress, are to precede the Games. Lovers of the theatre and music will be presented with special festival programmes during the Olympic weeks.

A special committee, at the head of which is Dr. Lewald, the former Under Secretary of State, has been formed for the organisation of the Games. The committee's offices are at 43 Hardenbergstrasse, Berlin-Charlottenburg 2. Führer and chancellor Adolf Hitler has graciously consented to act as Patron of the Games.

The world of sport in Germany is delighted to be able to act as host at the Olympic Games, and the preparations are well under way. A hearty invitation is extended to all the countries in the world and a sincere welcome awaits all who attend. The entire German nation takes part in this invitation, and the Government are also giving their wholehearted support and cooperation. Up to June, 1935, the Olympic committees of forty-eight nations had reported that they would send their teams. Never previously have so many nations taken part in Olympic Games.

We feel sure that the XIth Olympiad will maintain the magnificent tradition of the Games, and above all we hope that it will be a worthy successor to the Games which took place in Los Angeles in 1932, and which, up to the present, are the greatest achievement in the history of modern Olympiads.

Carl Diem

ILLUSTRATIONS

lent or made by

E. Zürcher, Haagen p. 2; From "Corpus Imaginum" of the Photographische Gesellschaft, Berlin pp. 7, 8; Rudolf Hatzold, Magdeburg pp. 10, 11; Georg Bienek, Berlin p. 13; A. Binder, Berlin pp. 14, 15; Hans Hubmann, Münchener Bildbericht pp. 17, 43; Pressephoto, Berlin pp. 18, 19, 24; from "Das Deutsche Lichtbild", Bruno Schultz Verlag, Berlin p. 20; Jul. Gross, Berlin pp. 21, 28; Reichsverband für deutsche Jugendherbergen p. 23; Foto-Express, Berlin p. 25; Hitlerjugend, Gebiet Westfalen, Münster p. 26; Hans Bittner, Berlin p. 41; from "Jungvolk im Lager", Verlag Junge Generation, Berlin (Axel von Graefe) p. 31; from Presse Illustrationen Hoffmann, Berlin p. 32; Max Ehlert, Berlin p. 37; Hans Reinke, Berlin p. 39; v. Estorff-Volkmann, Berlin p. 40; Schirner Sportbilder, Berlin p. 45.

Covers-photograph from Hartmann-Mauritius
arranged by Herbert Beyer, Berlin.